

that the poisonous snakes are much more numerous in certain seasons of the year, by the poison-

survived, and that thus, being anxious to rid the
serges of this poison by biting something soft, a
serpenty put it in his mouth. The man, however,
not being that the instinct tells them will not injure
their poisonous fangs. Two instances that occurred
at Natal appear to bear out the theory. A Hottentot
was crossing the Moot river dried, a Hottentot
followed him. The last man saw a
snake dart out from some rocks, seize the first
Hottentot by the leg, and glide back again; the bit-
ten man died within a short time of receiving the bite.
The other the day after, a Hottentot followed
Arenal at Woolwich, who, when far up the country
with a master, and walking near the waggon, per-
ceived a puff-adder spring at his face. He suddenly
turned his head and the reptile, assuming to follow
his wide awake back. The man knocked the head
of the snake and was immediately shot by a looker-on.
*Captain A. W. Drogson's Sporting Scenes among the
Kaffirs of South Africa.*

SECRET SOCIETIES IN THE EAST.—THE TIMES FOR DECEMBER IN VICTORIA.
—In the case of Roberts v. Bridge, tried at the
Magistrate's Court, before Mr. W. H. Gaunt, P.M.
on the 4th of February, the Bench stated that,
in consequence of the evidence given, there were
no warrants of distress, or commitments under
Jarvis's Act, would be issued by that court until
the opinion of the law officer of the Crown had been ob-
tained. Verdicts would be given, as usual, but
warrants issued.—*Orcutt Constitution.*

SECRET SOCIETIES IN THE EAST.—The Times of 14
December says:—The Rev. Dr. Cahill, of Ultramarine
note, notoriety, occasionally dismounts the high horse
of his sanctity, and writes in a more than ordinary
write plain sense. In one of his latest contributions
to the weekly press, the rev. gentleman addresses the
words of warning to his fellow-countrymen:—
"I need not weary you with a long dissertation on
well informed on the organisation, the plans, and the
very names of the leaders of secret societies in Ire-
land, it cannot be doubted that the proclamation
issued in the end of last week by Lord Lieutenant
of Ireland, has been very judiciously managed."
From a very long lecture, indeed, I have
never known a similar proclamation founded on false
information. The Vice-regal authorities may occasion-
ally be misled by the reports of their agents, or
in individuals; but beyond dispute their knowl-
edge of its originators, members, abettors, and its
friends, is most accurate. You may rely on this state-
ment, and I am perfectly assured that you will be
satisfied and convinced that the Chief Secretary for
Ireland can produce, at the moment I write these words,
the names of every individual who has administered
an unlawful oath, as well as the names, the residences,
the occupations, and the names of the persons who
who has deified God's Gospel as he puts his trembling
hand to this blasphemous pledge. The moment when
the unfortunate new member pronounces the words
of the oath, he is, in the eyes of the law, a traitor to
life at the mercy of a traitorous companion or a per-
jured spy, he ties the hangman's rope on his own
neck, he pronounces his own sentence of death, a
republican scaffold. If you are a leader on an igno-
rant and uneducated man, you are a traitor to the
Government devoted their knowledge, and which
have I assumed the tone of confidence with which

spoke, Trepany.—The Government have their informant from the very man who administered the oath, from the very man who injured you into blasphemy, who received a bribe to insure your death, and who makes a traffic on your flesh at blood. The Government has this accurate informant within twenty-four hours of your sanguinary oath, and I have this knowledge graven on my heart from my intimate acquaintance with the unfortunate history of the atrocious system of secret societies. We have already announced by telegram from London that the Atlantic Royal Mail Steam Navigation Company have concluded a contract for the building of three ships with the Messrs. Palmer and Co., the eminent ship-builders of Newcastle-on-Tyne. We are now enabled

The three new vessels, which will be ready in June,

and July next, are to be "express despatch steamers" for the conveyance of telegraphic messages, mail and passengers only. They will carry no cargo whatever, and will observe every respect class vessels, fitted up in the most complete manner. The terms of the contract should be carried out (of which we have no doubt), will be unequalled in point of speed and comfort. Their dimensions will be 347 feet in length, 36 feet in beam, and 16 feet in draught or depth. Tonnage 2300 builders' measurement. They will each afford accommodation to 200 first, and 300 second class passengers; and will be provided with dining saloons 290 feet in length. The engines will be of the compound cylinder type, and will develop a net horse-power. The contractors have guaranteed a minimum speed of twenty miles an hour. This a quicker rate of speed than has hitherto been attained by any of the express boats, and it is probable that the boats affording, having never exceeded, even under most favourable circumstances, eighteen knots per hour. Even at the highest speed which these "express boats" will attain, they will not consume more than twenty tons of coal per day, in consequence of the improved machinery with which they will be fitted up. We believe

—The FAMILY OF MR. HOPE SCOTT OF ARNOTTSFORD.—To obtain a public sympathy on a private sorrow can only be excused when the bereavement lamented is one in which the public may claim some sort of common share. Such is the excuse for referring to the death of a young man, a son of a noble family, who died on the 29th of December, of the only son of Mr. Hope Scott, of Arnottsford, this interesting child, the only living male descendant of his illustrious great grandfather, Sir Walter Scott, whose name he bore, was only a year and a half of age. He was a child of a noble and generous heart, little more than six weeks. An infant, he died on a fortnight ago, on the 3rd; and thus since the 2d of October, the date of Mrs. Hope Scott's death, a afflicted father has had also to lament the loss of a young son, who was the only male descendant, and that may long be spared to her bereavement, and that may bear the great name of which she is the sole survivor representative, will be the prayer of many a sympathetic Scottish heart.—*Scotsman*.

EXTRAORDINARY SILENCE OF A DOG.—The

the remarkable sagacity of the dog, is related that Mr. Hoan of this place was robbed on a day evening, 7th November, of \$4300 dollars and large amount in county warrants, piramony no &c. On Friday last, 10th November, 1160 dollars were stolen from the same place, about the same time, and the same dog was seen to come yards from the house near Santa Rosa Creek, and called by bushes, and covered in the sand. The customers attending this discovery evince some extraordinary sagacity in one of the canine race. The dog was a large black and white, and was a great favourite with his master, and was given every opportunity to prove his gratitude for his noble position. Ever since the robbery was committed this dog has in various ways evinced his sagacity in relation to this robbery had been committed, by which his master has been enabled to recover the stolen property. A day or two after the robbery the dog came home with a bundle of papers which had been stolen. On Friday morning the dog came to the house, and was seen to come from a worn-out hat, which was immediately recognized by the owner, and was taken by the man who drew the knife on her at the time of the robbery. This increased the confidence

Mr. Ingram that the dog had more knowledge of affairs than the hounds had. It was accordingly ascertained that the dog shot at the fox, and that he would lead them to, Mrs. Valley following him. He ran up the creek some three or four hundred yards, and went into a thick clump of bushes near the mouth of the creek, and commenced sniffing that intense anxiety upon his face when near their game. On coming near the bushes he gave him some encouragement, when he with a effort, owing to the entangled bushes, brought out another pair of pants, and a moment afterwards brought out another pair of pants, and a third pair of pants. Valley then came near him, when she collected one of another pair of pants, with a sack stuck in it. At this discovery she became somewhat excited, and possibly a little alarmed, and hesitated to go near it. She then called to Mr. John Ingram, who was passing near, and informed him of the discovery. He approached, and took from her the remainder of the bundle, when the examination was found to consist of a sack, nearly the size of a fifty-pound flour sack into which were packed a pair of trousers and pants placed and tied up, and put into a sack of another pair of pants. Altogether, we regard this as most

extraordinary circumstances. There were two men who entered the house at the time of the robbery. The pair of pantaloons were found with the stolen property, indicating plainly that there were three persons interested in the robbery. This fact is still more substantiated by the amount found being exactly one-third the amount stolen.

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destitution; but when men have satisfied what they believe to be the claims of these various organisations, they rarely look into their details. The recipients of the bounty which they provide have never been distinguished in the world. There is no romance in their history. There is nothing to interest the imagination—nothing upon which the mind reposes with much pleasure. Except, therefore, in those who are concerned with the management, the internal affairs of these institutions are almost entirely uninteresting. The reports are necessarily statistical and the attractions of mere figures are felt only by those with whom statistics form the elements of a science. The speeches delivered upon such

occasions are generally matter-of-fact : often cold and dry ;—they have *cost* nothing, and they are *worth* nothing. Argument seems thrown away when there is no one to dispute, and it is difficult to enforce a duty with effect when they only who have not performed it are absent.

It would be wrong to suppose, however, that the real sympathy of the public with these institutions is to be measured by the attendance. Their necessity is almost universally admitted ; and if they are not supported it is either that the system of collection is imperfect, or because the bulk of society habitually

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devolve all such claims upon the benevolence of a few.

Attendance at public meetings is determined by a great variety of causes, independent of the strength of the denomination or the value set upon the institution. The meetings of small parties are always better attended, as their collections are always larger, compared with their numbers; because in small bodies the sense of individual obligation is more distinctly felt. Meetings for local objects are better attended than those for general purposes. Thus, in a matter relating to a municipality, all its members may be collected, whereas a mere

One great stimulant to attendance at public meetings is the probability of conflict. We have seen meetings continued till midnight with unabated enthusiasm, when there has been a genuine scrimmage. It must be admitted that assemblies of men are more easily gathered when they afford a theatre for the less amiable passions. The organ of "combateness" is quite as much in play as the organ of "benevolence." People get wearied with the "soft murmur of limpid streams," and listening to the

We must recollect, in reference to public assemblies, that in this city they must be often simultaneously held. People have no idea of the number and variety, or they would be less astonished that they are often so scantily attended. To say nothing of meetings which relate to church matters, the people have all sorts of counter allurements—scientific and literary societies; masonic and benefit societies; societies for various schemes of local reformation; theatrical and musical entertainments—

all crowding together and distributing the people off into various assemblages. Thus are blended the many colours of human life. Thus wheels within wheels contribute to roll on the great machine, and thus we shall be greatly mistaken if, in noticing the slow movement of one part, we doubt the progression of the whole.

Referring to the support of benevolent institutions, it is obvious that contributions come but from a very small proportion of the people; nor can they be expected to be general so long as the scale of subscription excludes all but persons in good circumstances. Yet it is but fair to

remember the poor as so constantly and so liberally
relieve the poor as the poor themselves. There
is more charity administered by hard-working
women, at greater cost and self-denial, than by
persons in a superior condition. This must have
been remarked repeatedly by all medical men,
whose profession makes them familiar with the
short and simple annals of the poor. It is notice-
able, however, that while there are some names
that appear on every list, there are many who roll
in riches who never give a farthing to any public
charity. For this there is no possible excuse.
Every man disgraces society, by his example,
who neglects to do that which is proper in his
position. *—C. G. Smith, in his*

condition: "contributions which are morally true should be openly paid, and this is not ostentation but decency. There are some eccentric persons, no doubt, who are bountiful in secret, but were all the world to imitate them, there could be no organisation to regulate social beneficence—no one to penetrate those solitudes where "lonely want retires to die—no one to succour the total stranger. Everything would be absorbed by pushing on importunate beggars. Not only is the organization of charity necessary to its economy, and to its steady administration, but its very existence is sometimes dependent upon that organization.

such is the case with *nostalgia* and *advertis* for orphans. They may grow up to usefulness and honour, and preserve in grateful remembrance the bounty which has saved them from some of the worst calamities which can befall a child bereaved of parental care.

It is already manifest that some of our institutions will be a large resource in bequests. In the case of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, the dead still live in the administration of their charity. There is surely no institution which can more thoroughly satisfy all the conditions which a sensible man would require in appropriating his property by will. Those who are deaf and dumb, or like imbeciles and demented persons, are not only incapable of

THE engineering evidence given before the committee on the Windsor branch railway is of great interest to the settlers in the West country, as furnishing them with a statement of what has already been done in the way of running lines across the Blue Mountains, and what are the prospects of soon seeing the locomotive emerge on the plains of Bathurst. Mr. EDWIN RABBITON is the professional gentleman to whom

has been entrusted the rather arduous task of finding a track for the rails through the plains and across the ridges of this rugged country. A party of sappers and miners have been under his command. He began at Bathurst, in September, 1857, and worked westward. From Bathurst three lines have been surveyed, or rather two main lines, with variations. The first goes by the Fish River, Solitary Creek, Piper's Flat, Lithgow's Valley, along the top of Darling's Causeway, following the ridge on which the present road is constructed, and down on to the Sun Plains. This line is considered practical.

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that the Government, at least a portion of the Government, had shown great laxity and negligence with reference to the execution of the law. He denied that there had been any sufficient evidence to justify the Government in passing the District Court Act should be postponed till some particular clause was a *condition*.

MR. FLETCHER was not likely to be one to propose the adoption of the amendment proposed, seeing that it was one of those who were in the habit of opposing amendments. He was not in favor of his opponents. At the time he did so, he expressly stated that his intention was, that the bill would have to undergo many alterations before he could assent to it. He said that he was not in favor of the present amendments but the last that would be required would be to amend the bill so that it would be in accordance with any amendments which he and other non-members had intended to make, but had not the time or space allowed by the Government. He said that he was not in favor of the amendments, but he was in favor of an amended form as soon as possible, and he, therefore, would not object to the amendment being passed.

The motion for the second reading was then put and passed, and the bill was ordered to be printed and to be read a second time on a consecutive of the whole, to consider the bill in detail, on January 1 and 5, "Extending liability to £10," were passed.

Section 3, "Jurisdiction of Courts of Requests," was passed.

MR. FLETCHER said that he was not in favor of the bill, but he was in favor of the clause, seeing that the District Courts Act entirely abolished the rights of Requests.

MR. FLETCHER said that he and a learned member had read the clause of the bill, he would see that it was necessary to make some alterations in the clause.

MR. FLETCHER thought the clause altogether unnecessary, and was opposed to giving new powers to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, and he was not in favor of the clause. He entered upon the hearing of any case under the Court of Requests.

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GLANCES AT LATE FOREIGN PAPERS.

(Translated for the Sydney Morning Herald.)

THE CIRCULATION OF THE JOURNAL OF THE 25th November last contains articles which show, in a very strong light, the increasing favour and almost universal popularity with which the "great question of the Levant" is being considered. The "Levant" is now a household word, and the English Government and the English people, to have anything to do with the gigantic project (as one which, if realised, might operate injuriously upon British interests) is now reported to have been gradually overcome. The "Levant" is now a household word, and the English Government and the English people, to have anything to do with the gigantic project (as one which, if realised, might operate injuriously upon British interests) is now reported to have been gradually overcome. The "Levant" is now a household word, and the English Government and the English people, to have anything to do with the gigantic project (as one which, if realised, might operate injuriously upon British interests) is now reported to have been gradually overcome.

STEVENS'S BREAD-MAKING MACHINE. We might suppose that, if the fact were not forced upon our attention, that the most important and the most ancient of all the arts is the one which at the present day is the least advanced, and we might almost say which is the rudest and most barbarous state. But enter into the first and most important of the arts, and you will be surprised to find that, though the process has remained devoid of improvement for thousands of years, the public are indebted to the medical progress, and particularly to the able articles which appeared in the *Lancet* about two years ago, for calling their attention to the subject. The same paper, after acquainting us with the filthy details of making bread by the old system, was the first to inform us that a remedy had been discovered for curing an evil. It says:—"Can the manufacture of the chief article of food continue for a day longer to be made in the filthy manner in which it has been made for centuries? The answer is, 'No'." The article then goes on to describe the "Levant" system, which is now reported to have been gradually overcome. The "Levant" is now a household word, and the English Government and the English people, to have anything to do with the gigantic project (as one which, if realised, might operate injuriously upon British interests) is now reported to have been gradually overcome.

THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1889. The article continues with a detailed description of the bread-making process, comparing the old method with the new "Levant" system. It mentions the use of machinery and the importance of hygiene in the new process. The text is dense and technical, focusing on the improvements in bread-making technology and the impact on public health.

THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1889. This section contains various local news items, including reports on the weather, local events, and community activities. It also includes several short notices and advertisements for local businesses and services.

THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1889. This section is dedicated to real estate advertisements. It lists numerous properties for sale or rent, including houses, land, and commercial buildings. Each listing provides details about the location, size, and features of the property.

THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1889. This section contains more real estate advertisements, similar to the previous one. It lists various properties available for sale or rent, with descriptions of their characteristics and locations.

THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1889. This section includes a variety of notices and advertisements. It covers topics such as lost and found items, legal notices, and announcements from various organizations and individuals.